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ANDERSON KILL & OLICK, P.C. 1251 Avenue of the Americas New York, New York 10020 JOSHUA GOLD LAWRENCE J. BARTELEMUCCI (212) 278-1000

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

BROOKLYN OFFICE

YANKOWITZ LAW FIRM, P.C.,

Plaintiff,

v.

STEPHEN A. SHELLER, SHELLER, LUDWIG & BADEY, P.C. and SHELLER, P.C.,

Defendants.

CIVIL ACTION 9 0853

SEYBERT, &

BOYLE, M.J

NOTICE OF REMOVAL OF ACTION FROM STATE COURT

TO PLAINTIFF AND THE CLERK OF THE COURT:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1441 and 1446, Defendants STEPHEN A. SHELLER, SHELLER, LUDWIG & BADEY, P.C. and SHELLER, P.C. (collectively referred to herein as "Sheller, P.C.") hereby remove the above-entitled action from the Supreme Court of the State of New York in and for the County of Nassau to the United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York.

This is a civil action over which this Court has original subject matter jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332, and the matter is thus properly removed to this Court. In support thereof, Sheller, P.C. states as follows:

I. STATE COURT ACTION

1. On or about February 11, 2009, Plaintiff Yankowitz Law Firm, P.C. ("Plaintiff") filed a Complaint in the Supreme Court of the State of New York in and for the County of Nassau, Index No.: 022395/09 (the "Complaint"). A true and correct copy of the Summons and Complaint is attached as Exhibit A.

II. REMOVAL IS TIMELY

- 2. Counsel for Sheller, P.C. has not been served with a copy of said Complaint yet, but Plaintiff's counsel sent a copy of said Complaint to Sheller, P.C. by electronic mail on February 11, 2009.
- 3. Sheller, P.C. contends that the method of service of said Complaint was improper and without effect, so that the thirty-day period for removal has not begun to run. By filing this Notice of Removal, Sheller, P.C. does not waive any objections or defenses that it may have, including objections to jurisdiction and service of process.
- 4. The Complaint constitutes the first notice to Sheller, P.C. that original jurisdiction is proper in this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332 and that the action is thus removable. See 28 U.S.C. § 1446(b).
- 5. As required by 28 U.S.C. § 1446(b), this Notice of Removal is filed within 30 days after Sheller, P.C. first received notice that the Complaint had been filed by Plaintiff.

III. <u>DIVERSITY JURISDICTION</u>

6. Plaintiff Yankowitz Law Firm, P.C. admits that it is a professional corporation organized and exiting under the law of the State of New York. (Complaint, ¶ 1.)

- 7. Defendant Stephen A. Sheller is an individual residing in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. (Complaint, ¶ 2.)
- 8. Defendant Sheller, Ludwig & Badey, P.C. was a professional corporation organized and existing under the law of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

 (Complaint, ¶ 3.)
- 9. Defendant Sheller, P.C. is a professional corporation organized and existing under the law of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. (Complaint, ¶ 4.)
- 10. In its Complaint, Plaintiff alleges that the amount in controversy is in excess of one million dollars (\$1,000,000). (Complaint, ¶¶ 30(b), 35(b), 40(b).)
- Thus, this action is one over which this Court has original jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. § 1332 because there is complete diversity of the parties and the matter in controversy exceeds \$75,000.
- 12. In addition, the Vioxx Resolution Program which governs, among other things, the distribution of settlement proceeds which are at issue in this case is overseen by the Honorable Eldon E. Fallon of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana as part of the Vioxx Multidistrict Litigation (MDL No. 1657) governed by 28 U.S.C. § 1407, which also makes jurisdiction in this Court proper.

IV. STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

13. As required by 28 U.S.C. § 1446(d), Sheller, P.C. will promptly give notice of this removal to Plaintiff through its attorneys of record, Jack Yankowitz, Esq. and Don P. Foster, Esq. of Klehr, Harrison, Harvey, Branzburg & Ellers LLP.

- 14. As required by 28 U.S.C. § 1446(d), Sheller, P.C. will promptly file a copy of this Notice with the Supreme Court of the State of New York in and for the County of Nassau.
- 15. As required by 28 U.S.C. § 1446(a), Sheller, P.C. has attached the Summons and Complaint, attached hereto as Exhibit A, constituting all the process and pleadings received by Sheller, P.C. in this case.
- 16. In filing this Notice of Removal, Sheller, P.C. does not waive any defense(s) that may be available to them in this litigation.

WHEREFORE, Defendants STEPHEN A. SHELLER, SHELLER, LUDWIG & BADEY, P.C. and SHELLER, P.C. respectfully request that the action now pending against it in the Supreme Court of the State of New York in and for the County of Nassau be removed therefrom and proceed in this Court as an action properly removed to it.

Dated: February 27, 2009

ANDERSON KILL & OLICK, P.C.

Joshua Gold, Esq.

Lawrence J. Bartelemucci, Esq. ANDERSON KILL & OLICK, P.C. 1251 Avenue of the Americas New York, NY 10020 (212) 278-1000 Phone

(212) 278-1733 Facsimile

Of Counsel

Brian J. McCormick, Jr., Esq. SHELLER, P.C. 1528 Walnut Street, 3rd Floor Philadelphia, PA 19102 (215) 790-7300 Phone (215) 546-0942 Facsimile

Exhibit A

FEB-11-2009 12:24 From: YANKOWITZ LAW FIRM 5168294344

To:2155686683

P.3/4

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF NASSAU

-----X YANKOWITZ LAW FIRM, P.C.,

SUMMONS

DATE FILED: Feb. 11, 2009

Index No.: 002395/09

-against-

STEPHEN A. SHELLER, SHELLER, LUDWIG & BADEY, P.C. and SHELLER, P.C.,

Defendant(s),

Plaintiff(s),

TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANT(s):

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to appear in this action by serving a notice of appearance on plaintiff's attorneys within 20 days after service of this summons, exclusive of the day of service, or within 30 days after service is complete if this summons is not personally delivered to you within the State of New York. In case of your failure to answer, Judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

The basis of venue is plaintiff's place of business.

Plaintiff resides at 175 Bast Shore Road, Great Neck County Nassau of New York.

DATED: Great Neck, New York February 9, 2009

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NASSAU COUNTY COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE Yours, etc.,

THE YANKOWITZ LAW FIRM, P.C.

JACK A. YANKOWITZ

Attorney for Plaintiff(6)

1/75 East/Shore Road Great Neck, NY 11023

(516) 622-6200 File # 1000-00

DEFENDANT'S ADDRESS(ES):

STEPHEN A. SHELLER SHELLER, LUDWIG & BADEY, P.C. SHELLER, P.C. 1525 Walnut Street, 3rd Floor Philadelphia, PA 19102 (215) 790-7300

TEB-11-2009 12:24 From: YANKOWITZ LAW FIRM 5168294344

To: 21556B66B3

P.4/4

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF NASSAU YANKOWITZ LAW FIRM, P.C.,

Plaintiff(s),

VERIFIED COMPLAINT

Index No.: 002395/09

-against-

STEPHEN A. SHELLER, SHELLER, LUDWIG & BADEY, P.C. and SHELLER, P.C.,

Defendant(s),

Plaintiff, YANKOWITZ LAW FIRM, P.C., Pro-Se complaining of the defendants herein, respectfully shows to this Court, and alleges as follows:

FACTS

- The plaintiff is The Yankowitz Law Firm. (hereinafter "Yankowitz"), a professional corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of New York, with its principal place of business located at 175 East Shore Road, Great Neck, NY 11023, County of Nassau.
- defendant, Stephen A. Sheller at all times The hereinmentioned, upon information and belief, is an attorney admitted to practice law and residing in the State of Pennsylvania.
- defendant, Sheller Ludwig and Badey, P.C. (hereinafter *SLB") was and still is a professional corporation organized and existing under the laws of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania with offices located at 1525 Walnut Street, 3rd Floor, Philadelphia, PA 19102.

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- 4. The defendant, Sheller, P.C. was and still is a professional corporation organized and existing under the laws of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania with offices located at 1525 Walnut Street, 3rd Floor, Philadelphia, PA 19102.
- 5. That at all times hereinmentioned, upon information and belief, defendant SLB and defendant Sheller, P.C. are the same corporate entity.
- 6. That at all times hereinmentioned, upon information and belief, Sheller, P.C. is the successor firm to defendant SLB, and contractually and legally assumed and is bound by all obligations, agreements and contracts of its predecessor firm.
- 7. That at all times hereinmentioned, defendant Stephen A. Sheller was and still is a principal owner and/or partner and/or officer of the defendant, Sheller, Ludwig & Badey, P.C. and the defendant, Sheller, P.C.
- 8. That at all times hereinmentioned, the defendants shall collectively be referred to as the Sheller Firm.
- 9. At all times hereinmentioned, defendant Stephen A. Sheller managed and controlled both defendants, Sheller, Ludwig & Badey, P.C. and Sheller, P.C., had full authority to enter into agreements and contracts on behalf of defendants Sheller, Ludwig & Badey, P.C. and Sheller, P.C. including but not limited to Trial Counsel working contracts and agreements.
- 10. That the defendants, at all times hereinmentioned, solicited business and legal matters from the plaintiff in the State of New York; the defendants regularly do and/or solicit

business within the State of New York; and the defendants derived substantial revenue from goods used or services rendered in the State of New York.

- 11. That the defendants expected or should have expected its acts as alleged and set forth herein, to have consequences within the State of New York and the defendants derived substantial revenue from interstate commerce.
- 12. That at all times hereinmentioned, the defendants represented that they were duly admitted to practice law in the State of New Jersey and they had extensive experience in the litigation and trial of mass toxic tort cases.
- 13. In and around the fourth quarter of 2004, Yankowitz was retained to represent 303 potential plaintiffs in their claims for damages arising from personal injuries sustained as a result of negligence on the part of Merck & Co. related to the sale of the drug Vioxx (hereinafter "the Yankowitz clients").
- 14. That due to favorable evidentiary, discovery and trial issues, Yankowitz made a decision to bring and litigate his clients' Vioxx claims against Merck & Co. in the State Court of New Jersey rather than in the New York Federal Court/MDL.
- 15. In order to assist it in the prosecution of its clients' claims in New Jersey, Yankowitz retained the defendants as Trial Counsel, based on their prior solicitations and representations that they had substantial experience in mass toxic tort litigation, specifically in processing, discovery, litigation and trials thereof.

- 16. In and around October 20, 2004 in the State of New York, the parties entered into an agreement wherein Yankowitz retained the Sheller firm to serve as trial counsel for the Yankowitz clients' Vioxx claims and litigation. A true and correct copy of this Agreement, hereinafter referred to as "the Trial-counsel Agreement", is attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and incorporated herein as if set forth in full.
- 17. That pursuant to said agreement (Exhibit "A") and as a matter of Law, the defendants had a fiduciary duty of absolute loyalty to Yankowitz, to exert their best efforts as "Trial Counsel" to Yankowitz and on behalf of The Yankowitz clients, not to interfere with the retainer agreements and relationship between Yankowitz and its clients (Exhibits "B" and "C") and not to place defendants private interests in conflict with the Trial-Counsel Agreement (Exhibit "A") and the attorney client retainers and relationships between Yankowitz and its clients.
- 18. The Trial-Counsel Agreement (Exhibit "A") provided, inter alia, that:
 - a. The defendants were retained by Yankowitz to act as "Trial Counsel" in the Vioxx cases where Yankowitz was retained;
 - Yankowitz would be responsible for initial client retainers, sign-ups and collection of medical records;
 - c. Yankowitz would act as Liaison with the clients;
 - d. All aspects of the litigation, without exceptions, including but not limited to all pleadings, interrogatories, fact sheets, bill of particulars, discovery, depositions, all pre-trial disclosure, appearances and trials, would be handled and processed by the defendants with all pleadings and

- documents reflecting Yankowitz as attorney of record and the defendants as Trial-Counsel;
- Both firms' out-of-pocket expenditures would be reimbursed out of the aggregate gross recovery prior to distribution of attorneys fees;
- f. Fees net of costs would be shared equally;
- That Yankowitz was retained by all 303 clients in the State of New York; all communication and correspondence with these clients pre-litigation occurred within the State of New York; initial collection of all medical records consisting of tens of thousands of documents and clients sign-ups and investigations, with an out-of-pocket cost to Yankowitz in the amount of Eighty thousand six hundred eighty four and 50/100 (\$80,684.50) took place within the State of New York; and all of the forgoing was performed by Yankowitz, its staff, employees and agents within the State of New York and all pre-litigation correspondence and communications between Yankowitz and defendants took place from within the State of New York.
- 20. That out of the 303 Yankowitz clients which were the subject of the Trial-Counsel Agreement (Exhibit "A"), only 26 were deemed to have met the criteria for a viable Vioxx claim and 26 separate Actions were commenced in the Superior Court of New Jersey. A copy of the OCA Statements filed by Yankowitz in New York State for each of the said 26 clients are annexed hereto as Exhibit "B". Annexed as Exhibit "C" is a list of each of these clients together with the Retainer number assigned by the New York State Office of Court Administration.

- 21. The actions on behalf of the 26 Yankowitz clients were ultimately consolidated into and made part of a master mass tort complaint filed in the Superior Court of New Jersey Law Division, Atlantic County entitled In Re: Vioxx Litigation Case, Case Code No. 619 ("The Vioxx litigation").
- 22. That Yankowitz performed all of its duties under the Trial-Counsel Agreement. However, contrary to its expressed undertakings in the Agreement, the defendants:
 - a. communicated directly with Yankowitz's clients and tortuously interfered with the relationship between Yankowitz and its clients; fraudulently solicited, induced and obtained from the Yankowitz clients agreements and letters retaining the defendants directly, wantonly and wilfully disregarding the rights of Yankowitz and breaching the terms of its fiduciary obligations under the Trial-Counsel Agreement (Exhibit "A");
 - b. failed to reflect Yankowitz as attorney of record and its role in the case on pleadings and discovery filed and served with the court and to Merck counsel on 9 of the 26 Yankowitz cases which were filed; failed to properly identify themselves as "Trial Counsel" only on all 26 cases; and
 - c. Improperly and wrongfully took possession of settlement proceeds and failed and refused to reimburse, make payment and deliver to Yankowitz the amount of \$80,684.50 for costs and disbursements, and the fees due and owed to Yankowitz pursuant to the Trial Counsel Agreement (Exhibit "A").
 - d. otherwise failed to perform as required under the Trial-Counsel Agreement (Exhibit "A").
- 23. In and around November 2007 the parties to the Vioxx litigation announced a settlement of all claims, which would be administered by an independent consultant retained by the court. As part of the claims administration process, counsel were required

to submit claim forms on behalf of their clients, which would form the basis of individual distributions. It was anticipated at the time that there would be an initial distribution of 40% of each claimant's award beginning in the fourth quarter of 2008, with the balance to be paid thereafter.

- 24. Upon information and belief, the Sheller firm without permission and consent of Yankowitz, submitted settlement claim forms under the Sheller Firm name on behalf of 26 Yankowitz clients. A true and correct copy of a list of Yankowitz clients from whom the Sheller firm has represented it has filed claims is attached as Exhibit "C".
- 25. That the Sheller Firm fraudulently submitted said claim forms, intentionally, wilfully and consciously omitting the fact that Yankowitz was the retained attorney and attorney of record; that said actions were a fraudulent, intentional scheme to obtain the settlement proceeds, in a tortious, intentional and wilful interference and disregard of the rights of Yankowitz.
- 26. The Vioxx Claim Administrator has begun to pay the initial distribution to claimants. Those payments have included payment to the Sheller firm which, on information and belief, is in turn paying each client's distributive share. However, despite demand, the Sheller firm has failed to account to Yankowitz for the funds it has received on behalf of Yankowitz clients, to reimburse Yankowitz for costs advanced by Yankowitz (\$80,684.50) or to pay Yankowitz its 50% share of the net fees.

- 27. In response to Yankowitz's demand for an accounting and for strict performance of the Trial-Counsel Agreement, payment of said costs/disbursements (\$80,684.50) and 50% of all net attorneys fees, the Sheller firm has repudiated the Agreement, has refused to provide Yankowitz the information it has requested and has refused to make payments of the aforesaid amounts for costs, disbursements and fees which belong to and are owed to Yankowitz.
- 28. That this action falls within one or more of the exceptions set forth in CPLR Section 1602.

As and for a First Cause of Action for Breach of Contract

- 29. Plaintiff repeats and realleges each and every allegation set forth above in paragraphs 1-28 as if fully set forth herein.
- 30. The defendants have breached the Trial-Counsel Agreement (Exhibit "A"), causing Yankowitz to suffer the following damages:
 - a. lost reimbursement of disbursements and expenses incurred by it in an amount not less than \$80,684.50;
 - b. fees to which it is entitled in an amount, upon information and belief, in excess of One Million Dollars.

As and for a Second Cause of Action for Specific Performance and Injunction

- 31. Plaintiff repeats and realleges each and every allegation set forth above in paragraphs 1-30 as if fully set forth herein.
- 32. The defendants have repudiated the Trial-Counsel Agreement (Exhibit "A") and have advised Yankowitz that it does not intend to honor the Agreement.

- 33. Yankowitz has performed all of its duties under the Agreement and has perfected its entitlement to payment according to its terms.
- 34. That the defendants, their agents, servants and/or employees be enjoined from distribution of any and all amounts received from any and all of the 26 Yankowitz cases (Exhibits "B" & "C") except net amounts properly due and owing to the clients pursuant to client retainers with the Yankowitz Law Firm and the terms of the Vioxx Mass Trust Settlement Agreement.
 - 35. That Yankowitz has suffered damages as follows:
 - a. lost reimbursement of disbursements and expenses incurred by it in an amount not less than \$80,684.50;
 - b. fees to which it is entitled in an amount, upon information and belief, in excess of One Million Dollars.

As and for a Third Cause of Action for an Accounting

- 36. Plaintiff repeats and realleges each and every allegation set forth above in paragraphs 1-35 as if fully set forth herein.
 - 37. A fiduciary relationship exists between parties.
- 38. Despite repeated demands by the plaintiff, the defendants have failed to account to Yankowitz for funds received and distributed by it related to the Yankowitz clients and the Trial Counsel Agreement (Exhibit "A").
- 39. That the defendants should be Ordered and Directed to provide a complete, detailed accounting together with all bank account records, correspondence, communications, checks and documents regarding all amounts received, deposited and disbursed.

- 40. That Yankowitz has suffered damages as follows:
 - a. lost reimbursement of disbursements and expenses incurred by it in an amount not less than \$80,684.50;
 - b. fees to which it is entitled in an amount, upon information and belief, in excess of One Million Dollars.

As and for a Fourth Cause of Action for Tortious Interference, Breach of Fiduciary Duty and Punitive Damages

- 41. Plaintiff repeats and realleges each and every allegations set forth above in paragraphs 1-40 as if fully set forth herein.
- 42. That the defendants, their agents, servants and/or employees intentionally, wilfully, consciously and fraudulently failed to disclose to the Yankowitz clients (Exhibits "B" and "C") that the Sheller firm was only "Trial-Counsel" to Yankowitz pursuant to a Trial-Counsel Agreement (Exhibit "A").
- 43. That the defendants, their agents, servants and/or employees breached their fiduciary duty, conspired and entered into secret plan and course of action to tortiously interfere with the Retainer Agreements and the attorney-client relationship between Yankowitz and its clients (Exhibits "B" and "C").
- 44. That pursuant to said plan the defendants, their agents, servants and/or employees wrongfully contacted, communicated, solicited and induced the Yankowitz clients (Exhibits "B" and "C") to execute Retainer Agreements directly with Sheller firm; they fraudulently and intentionally omitted and failed to place and acknowledge Yankowitz as the attorney of record and sole retained

counsel of the 26 Yankowitz clients (Exhibits "B" and "C") on all pleadings, discovery, correspondence, communication, settlement claims, forms and documents, filed and served with the Superior Court of New Jersey, defense counsel, settlement administrator and others; they intentionally misrepresented to the Superior Court of New Jersey and to defendants' counsel their true role on behalf of the Yankowitz clients and failed to disclose that they were only "Trial Counsel", and not attorney of record; they filed and served claim documents in such a fraudulent and false matter to obtain sole control of the settlement proceeds of Yankowitz clients (Exhibits "B" and "C"), to intentionally deprive, prevent, and tortiously interfere with the receipt of all amounts due and owing to Yankowitz pursuant to its Retainer Agreement with its clients, the Trial-Counsel Agreement and the terms of the Mass Tort Vioxx Settlement.

- 45. That the aforesaid reprehensible and tortious conduct by defendants, Stephen A. Sheller, Sheller, Ludwig & Badey, P.C. and Sheller, P.C., their agents, servants and employees was intentional, conscious, wilful, wrongful and fraudulent, designed and intended to damage Yankowitz.
- 46. That as a result of the wanton, knowing, deliberate, intentional, tortious conduct by the defendants, their agents, servants and employees, Yankowitz has sustained the following damages:
 - a. lost reimbursement of disbursements and expenses incurred by it in an amount not less than \$80,684.50;

- b. fees to which it is entitled in an amount, upon information and belief, in excess of One Million Dollars.
- 47. That based upon the defendants aforesaid beach of fiduciary duty and the Trial-Counsel Agreement; their intentional, wilful, wanton and fraudulent solicitation of Yankowitz clients; their conspired, fraudulent, wilful and wanton disregard of the rights of Yankowitz, its relationship and the Retainer Agreements with its clients; their misrepresentations, wilful, wanton and fraudulent actions and conduct to obtain the settlement proceeds of Yankowitz clients (Exhibits "B" and "C") and their wanton, knowing and wilful tortious conduct and interference as alleged herein, the plaintiff seeks punitive damages in the amount of FIVE MILLION (\$5,000,000,000,00.) DOLLARS.

WHEREFORE, plaintiff Yankowitz Law Firm, P.C. demands judgment against the defendants as follows:

- 1. On the First Cause of Action against all of the defendants, jointly and severally, a judgment in the amount of
 - a. disbursements and expenses in the amount of \$80,684.50, and
 - b. attorney fees in excess of ONE MILLION (\$1,000,000.00) DOLLARS, the exact amount pending a final determination by this Honorable Court;
 - 2. On the Second Cause of Action:
 - a. disbursements and expenses in the amount of \$80,684.50, and
 - b. attorney fees in excess of ONE MILLION (\$1,000,000.00) DOLLARS, the exact amount pending a final determination by this Honorable Court.

- c. an Order requiring the defendants to perform as required under the Trial-Counsel Agreement and to enjoin any distribution to the defendants, their agents, servants and/or employees pending a final determination by this Honorable Court;
- 3. On the Third Cause of Action against all of the defendants, jointly and severally, an Order requiring the defendants to place all funds received by it from the Vioxx Claims Administrator arising out of its representation of Yankowitz clients into an interest-bearing escrow account in the name of both the Yankowitz and Sheller law firms; to account to Yankowitz for all funds received heretofore to date and all disbursements; and to otherwise provide Yankowitz on a same day basis with all information received from any source regarding the Yankowitz clients, and to enjoin any distribution to the defendants pending a final determination by this Court; and
- 4. On the Fourth Cause of Action against all of the defendants, jointly and severally, a judgment in the amount of
 - a. disbursements and expenses in the amount of \$80,684.50, and
 - b. attorney fees in excess of ONE MILLION (\$1,000,000.00) DOLLARS, the exact amount pending a final determination by this Honorable Court.
 - c. punitive damages in the amount of FIVE MILLION (\$5,000,000.00) DOLLARS; and

On all causes of action, for such other and further relief as is appropriate in the circumstances, including interest from the date the causes of action accrued, together with costs, disbursements and attorney fees allowed by Law.

Dated:

Great Neck, NY February 9, 2009

Yours, etc.

THE YANKOWITZ LAW FIRM, P.

JACK A. YANKOWITZ
Attorneys for Plaintiff(s)
175 East Shore Road
Great Neck, NY 11023
(516)622-6200
File # 1000-00

EXHIBIT "A"

SHELLER, LUDWIC & BADEY, P.C.

1528 WALNUTSTRIFT ARD FLOOR

PHILADELPHIA, PA. 19102

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WEB SITE WWW SHILLER COM

October 21, 2004

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WRITER'S DIRECT E-MAIL

STEPHEN A. SBILLILE *

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NAMES IS RELIGIOUS KUINT KUPTSKY**

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CHARLES E. MANGAN" MARC B. AUERBACH

SCOTT ALAN GEORGE **

CAROLINE & REEVEST

I MARTIN FUTRELLH

LEANNE P. BROWN BRIDGET CLARKE.

JUNA ITIAN SHIP ALBERT'I BROOKS --

> Jack A. Yankowitz, Esquire The Yankowitz Law Firm 175 East Shore Road Great Neck, NY 11023

> > Re:

Vioxx Cases

Dear Jack:

Enclosed please find the Working Agreement which I have signed in connection with the above matter.

I look forward to working with you on the Vioxx cases.

Sincerely,

STEPHEN A. SHELLER

SAS:lb **Enclosure**

STITURNEYS AT LAW JACK A. YANKOWITZ MICHAEL A. ETKIN 4 ROBERT A. HUBER ... KEVIN MAIN DINO SPADACCINES MARK PANEPINTO DANIEL LUKASIK FRANK DOLCE CHRISTOPHER P. GLADD SCOTT AGULNICK **GARY KAUGET** STUART RISSOFF Trial Counsel STEVEN B. NORTH MARK H. WEINSTEIN MICHAEL SERRES *VICHAEL PYRROS* Countel



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PENNSYLVANIA 4%1 OXFORD AVENUE PHILADELPHIA, PA 19124

E-MAIL YANKOWITZLAW#4AOL.COM

REPLY TO GREAT NECK OFFICE

October 20, 2004

Sheller, Ludwig & Badey 1528 Walnut Street, 3rd Floor Philadelphia, PA 19102

Attention: Stephen A. Sheller, Esq.

Re: Vioxx Cases

Dear Steve:

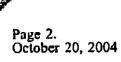
Member of PA & NJ Bar ^a Member of PA Bar "

I look forward to working with you and your firm in the litigation of Vioxx claims. This letter sets forth our working agreement for all cases where The Yankowitz Law Firm, P.C. is retained and SHELLER, LUDWIG & BADEY acts as trial counsel:

- 1. The Yankowitz Law Firm, P.C. will handle and process all initial client retainers and sign-ups, obtain the medical records and act as liaison with clients throughout the legal process as we have agreed.
- 2. All pleadings and litigation proceedings will be handled and processed by Sheller, Ludwig & Badey under the names of both firms, with continuous participation of The Yankowitz Law Firm, P.C. as we have agreed.
- 3. Our firms expenditures for investigation, medical records, experts, litigation costs, etc., will be reimbursed to our respective firms from the gross recoveries, prior to distribution of attorneys fees.
 - 4. The net fees generated on these cases will be shared as follows:

50% to The Yankowitz Law Firm, P.C. 50% to Sheller, Ludwig & Badey

- 5. Any and all clients/cases referred directly or indirectly from a client we are representing pursuant to this agreement, shall be represented in the same manner and the work, expenses and fees will be shared by our firms under the same terms of this working agreement.
- 6. For clarity in communication with our Vioxx clients, we shall list each others' firms as "of counsel" on our respective letterheads in the manner we have agreed.



As in the past, I am certain this venture will be successful for our clients as well as our firms.

Sincerely,

THE YANKOWITZ LAW FIRM, P.C.

By: JAC<mark>K A. YANKOWITZ</mark>

JAY:ri

Agreed & Accepted:

SHELLER, LUDWIG & BADEY

STEPHEN A SHELLER

EXHIBIT "B"

RETAINER STATEMENT

TO: · OFFICE OF COURT ADMINISTRATION OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK Post Office Box 2016 New York, NY 10008

For office use:

| 1. | Date of agreement as to Retainer: | |
|----|-----------------------------------------------|--|
| 2. | Terms of Companyation | |
| | Contingent Retainer - Straight 33 1/3 Percent | |
| 3. | Name and home address of all | |
| | 2407 Washington St. Wilmington, DE 19802. | |

4. If engaged by an attorney, name and office address of retaining attorney: Not applicable

5. If claim for personal injuries, wrongful death or property damage, date and place of occurrence:

6. If a condemnation or change of grade proceeding: Not applicable

7. Name, address, occupation and relationship of person referring the client: T.V. Commercial

Dated: Great Neck.

NY, 13 day of December, 2004

Our File # 0300-04

Yours, c Print

OL

JACK A. YANKOWITZ

Type

THE YANKOWITZ LAW FIRM, P.C. 175 East Shore Road, Great Neck, NY 11023

Office and P. O. Address

10th Dist 2nd Dept NASSAU County

^{*}Set forth particulars as to the fee arrangement, the type of services to be rendered in the matter, the code number assigned to the statement of retainer filed by the retaining attorney and the date when said statement of setainer was filed.

RETAINER STATEMENT

TO: OFFICE OF COURT ADMINISTRATION OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

Post Office Box 2016

New York, NY 10008

For office use:

| 1. | and of a because it as to verymen. | | |
|------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------|
| 2. | November 23, 2004 2. Terms of Compensation: | | |
| | Contingent Retainer - Straight 33 1/3 Percent | | |
| 3. | 3. Name and home address of client: Angel Guzman 2240 Amsterdam Ave. Apt 5C, New York, N.Y. 10032 | | |
| 4. | • | oining at | torney: Not applicable |
| 5. | | damage, | date and place of occurrence: |
| 6. | If a condemnation or change of grade proceeding: <u>Not an</u> | plicable | |
| 7 . | Name, address, occupation and relationship of person references. | rring the | client: T.V. Commercial |
| Dat | Dated: Great Neck. NY. 7 day o | | ber, 2004 |
| Oŧ | Our File # 0271-02 | Print | Yours, etc. |
| | | or { | Signature of Atlomey |
| | | (| JACK A. YANKOWITZ |
| | | Type | Attorney |

Office and P. O. Address

THE YANKOWITZ LAW FIRM, P.C. 175 East Shore Road, Great Neck, NY 11023

10th Dist 2nd Dept. NASSAU County

^{*}Set forth particulars as to the fee artistipement, the type of services to be rendered in the matter, the code number assigned to the statement of retainer filled by the retaining altorreg, and the date when said statement of retainer was filled.

For office use:

RETAINER STATEMENT

TO: OFFICE OF COURT ADMINISTRATION
OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
Post Office Box 2016
New York, NY 10008

| 1. | Date of agreement as to Retainer: November 2, 2004 | | | |
|----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2. | Terms of Compensation: Contingent Retainer - Straight 33 1/3 | Percent | | |
| 3. | Name and home address of client: Q 7B Cass Court, Ballston Lake, N.Y. | | deceased, by his | wife Nancy Palmer |
| 4. | If engaged by an attorney, name and | office addres | s of retaining atto | orney: Not applicable |
| 5. | If claim for personal injuries, wrongf January 2, 2003 - a vioxx injury | al death or pr | roperty damage, (| date and place of occurrence: |
| 6. | If a condemnation or change of grade | proceeding: | Not applicable | |
| 7. | Name, address, occupation and relation | onship of pen | son referring the | client: T.V. Commercial |
| Da | nted: Great Neck. | NY, . | 8 day of Novem | |
| o | Our File # 0183-03 | | Print | Yours, etc. |
| | | | or { | Signatury of Attorney JACK A. YANKOWITZ |
| | | | Туре | Attorney |
| | | | •• | THE YANKOWITZ LAW FIRM, P.C. 175 East Shore Road, Great Neck, NY 11023 |
| | | | | The state of the s |

Office and P. O. Address

10th Dist. 2nd Dept. NASSAU County

^{*}Set forth particulars as to the fee arrangement, the type of services to be rendered in the matter, the code number assigned to the statement of retainer filed by the resaining attorney and the date when said statement of retainer was filed.

RETAINER STATEMENT

TO: OFFICE OF COURT ADMINISTRATION
OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
Post Office Box 2016
New York, NY 10008

| For a | office | |
|-------|--------|--|

| l. | Date of agreement as to Retainer: November 23, 2004 |
|----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2. | Terms of Compensation: Contingent Retainer - Straight 33 1/3 Percent |
| 3. | Name and home address of client: Angela Fourquet 60 Hazel Ave, Farmingville, N.Y., 11738. |
| 4. | If engaged by an attorney, name and office address of retaining attorney: Not applicable |
| 5. | If claim for personal injuries, wrongful death or property damage, date and place of occurrence: July 30, 2002 - a vioxx injury |
| б. | If a condemnation or change of grade proceeding: Not applicable |
| 7. | Name, address, occupation and relationship of person referring the client: T.V. Commercial |
| | ted: Great Neck |
| Ou | File # 0295-02 Yours, etc. Print or Signature of Athority Type |
| | THE YANKOWITZ LAW FIRM, P.C. |

Office and P. O. Address

175 East Shore Road, Great Neck, NY 11023

10th Diet. 2nd Dept. NASSAU County

^{*}Set forth particulars as to the fee arrangement, the type of services to be rendered in the matter, the code number analgment to the statement of retainer filled by the retaining attorney and the date when said statement of retainer was filed.

RETAINER STATEMENT

TO: OFFICE OF COURT ADMINISTRATION
OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
Post Office Box 2016
New York, NY 10008

| For | office | 1186 |
|-----|--------|------|

| 1. | Date of agreement as to Retainer: December 6, 2004 | |
|------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 2. | | |
| 3. | Name and home address of client: <u>Hilario Cortes</u> 1 Pennsylvania Ave. Sommerdale, N.J. 08083. | |
| 4. | If engaged by an attorney, name and office address of retaining attorne | ey: Not applicable |
| 5. | If claim for personal injuries, wrongful death or property damage, date December 21, 2002 - a vioxx injury - Sommerdale, NJ | and place of occurrence: |
| 6. | If a condemnation or change of grade proceeding: Not applicable | |
| 7 . | Name, address, occupation and relationship of person referring the clien | nt: T.V. Commercial |
| Date | ated: Great Neck. NY, 7 day of December. | 2004 |
| Ou | Our File # 0270-02 Print or | Signature of Atthribey |

Туре

Office and P. O. Address

THE YANKOWITZ LAW FIRM, P.C. 175 East Shore Road, Great Neck, NY 11023

10th Dist. 2nd Dept. NASSAU County

^{*}Set forth particulars as in the fee arrangement, the type of services to be rendered in the matter, the code number assigned to she statement of retainer filed by the resuming atturnes and the date when and statement of retainer was filed.

RETAINER STATEMENT

TO: OFFICE OF COURT ADMINISTRATION
OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
Post Office Box 2016
New York, NY 10008

For office use:

| 1, | Date of agreement as to | Retainer: |
|----|-------------------------|-----------|
| | November 30, 2004 | |

2. Terms of Compensation:

Contingent Retainer - Straight 33 1/3 Percent

- Name and home address of client: <u>Nathan Ramsey</u> 1938 Cambridge St. Philadelphia, PA 19130.
- 4. If engaged by an attorney, name and office address of retaining attorney: Not applicable
- If claim for personal injuries, wrongful death or property damage, date and place of occurrence:
- 6. If a condemnation or change of grade proceeding: Not applicable
- 7. Name, address, occupation and relationship of person referring the client: T.V. Commercial

Our File # 0282-02

Dated: Great Neck.

Print

NY, 1 day of December, 2004

Yo

Signature of Attorne

JACK A. YANKOWITZ

Type

THE YANKOWITZ LAW FIRM, P.C. 173 East Shore Road, Great Neck, NY 11023

Office and P. O. Address

10th Dist. 2nd Dept. NASSAU County

^{*}Set forth particulars as to the for arrangement, the type of services to be rendered in the smaller, the code number assigned to the statement of retainer filled by the retaining attorney and the date when said statement of retainer was filled.

RETAINER STATEMENT

TO: OFFICE OF COURT ADMINISTRATION
OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
Post Office Box 2016
New York, NY 10008

For office use:

175 East Shore Road, Great Neck, NY 11023

Office and P. O. Address

10th Dist. 2nd Dept NASSAU County

| •• | November 26, 2004 | |
|-----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 2. | | |
| 3. | | |
| 4. | 4. If engaged by an attorney, name and office address of retaining | g attorney: Not applicable |
| 5. | If claim for personal injuries, wrongful death or property dama March 1, 2001 - a vioxx injury | ige, date and place of occurrence; |
| 6. | 6. If a condemnation or change of grade proceeding: Not applica | ble |
| 7. | 7. Name, address, occupation and relationship of person referring | the client: T. V. Commercial |
| Dat | Dated: Great Neck. NY, 1 day of De | cember, 2004 |
| Ou | Our File # 0285-01 Pr | Yours, etc. |
| | OF | Signature of Attorney |
| | Ту | Attorney |
| | | THE YANKOWITZ LAW FIRM, P.C. |

^{*}Set forth particulars as to the fee arrangement, the type of services to be rendered in the matter, the code number assigned to the statement of retainer filed by the retaining attorney and the date when said statement of retainer was filed.

RETAINER STATEMENT

TO: OFFICE OF COURT ADMINISTRATION
OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
Post Office Box 2016
New York, NY 10008

For office use:

| 1. | Date of agreement as to Retainer: |
|------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2. | December 2, 2004 Terms of Compensation: |
| | Contingent Patrices Co. 11 and and |
| | Contingent Retainer - Straight 33 1/3 Percent |
| 3, | Name and home address of client: Glenn Thweatt |
| | 24 Tern Court, Bayshore, N.Y. 11706. |
| 4. | If engaged by an attorney, name and office address of retaining attorney: Not applicable |
| 5. | If claim for account to the |
| ٥, | If claim for personal injuries, wrongful death or property damage, date and place of occurrence: July 1, 2000 - a vioxx injury - Bayahore, NY |
| 6. | If a condemnation or change of grade proceeding: Not applicable |
| _ | and proceeding: Not applicable |
| 7. | Name, address, occupation and relationship of person referring the client: T.V. Commercial |
| Date | MI Cune NI - I. |
| | NY, 17 day of December, 2004 |
| Out | File # 0309-00 Yours etc. |
| | |
| | or emiliar and a second |
| | Signature of Attorney |
| | MCK A. YANKOWITZ |
| | Attorney |
| | Туре |
| | THE YANKOWITZ LAW FIRM, P.C. |

Office and P. O. Address

175 East Shore Road, Great Neck, NY 11023

10th Dist. 2nd Dept. NASSAU County

^{*}Set forth particulars as to the fee arrangement, the type of services to be rendered in the mutter, the code number assigned to the statutent of retainer filed by the retaining assorably and the date when said statement of retainer was filed.

RETAINER STATEMENT

TO: OFFICE OF COURT ADMINISTRATION
OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
Post Office Box 2016
New York, NY 10008

For office use:

| 1. | Date of agreement as to Retainer: November 16, 2004 |
|------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2. | Terms of Compensation: Contingent Retainer - Straight 33 1/3 Percent |
| 3. | Name and home address of client: Amanda Santana-Torres 300 South 4th Street, Apt 714, Reading, Pa 19601 |
| 4. | If engaged by an attorney, name and office address of retaining attorney: Not applicable |
| 5. | If claim for personal injuries, wrongful death or property damage, date and place of occurrence: October 7, 2004 - a vioxx injury - Reading. PA |
| 6. | If a condemnation or change of grade proceeding: Not applicable |
| 7. | Name, address, occupation and relationship of person referring the client: T.V. Commercial |
| Date | ed: Great Neck, NY, 10 day of December, 2004 |
| Out | File # 0297-04 Print Or Signature of Attorney LICK A. YANKOWITZ Attorney |

Type

Office and P. O. Address

THE YANKOWITZ LAW FIRM, P.C. 175 East Shore Road, Great Neck, NY 11023

10th Dist. 2nd Dept. NASSAU County

*Set forth particulars as to the fee arrangement, the type of services to be rendered in the matter, the code number assigned to the statement of retainer filed by the retaining attorney and the date when said statement of retainer was filed.

For office use:

RETAINER STATEMENT

TO: OFFICE OF COURT ADMINISTRATION
OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
Post Office Box 2016
New York, NY 10008

| L. | Date of agreement as to Keunter. |
|----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2. | December 20, 2004 Terms of Compensation: |
| ۷. | Contingent Retainer - Straight 33 1/3 Percent |
| 3. | Name and home address of client: Miguel Navedo 42 Rivington St. Apt 15, New York, N.Y. 10002 |
| 4. | If engaged by an attorney, name and office address of retaining attorney: Not applicable |
| 5. | If claim for personal injuries, wrongful death or property damage, date and place of occurrence: <u>August 6, 2000 - a vioux injury - New York, NY</u> |
| 6. | If a condemnation or change of grade proceeding: Not applicable |
| 7. | Name, address, occupation and relationship of person referring the client: T.V. Commercial |
| Da | ted: Great Neck. NY, 23 day of December, 2004 |
| o | her File # 0344-00 Print Yours, etc. |
| | OF Separature of Attorney |
| | IACK A YANKOWITZ Attorney |
| | Type |
| | THE YANKOWITZ LAW FIRM, P.C. 175 East Shore Road, Great Neck, NY 11023 |
| | |

Office and P. O. Address

10th Dist 2nd Dept NASSAU County

Set forth particulars as to the fee arrangement, the type of services to be rendered in the matter, the code number assigned to the statement of retainer filed by the retaining attorney and the date when said statement of retainer was filed.

For office use:

RETAINER STATEMENT

TO: OFFICE OF COURT ADMINISTRATION
OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
Post Office Box 2016
New York, NY 10008

| |) |
|-----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. | Date of agreement as to Retainer: January 26, 2005 |
| 2. | Terms of Compensation: Contingent Retainer - Straight 33 1/3 Percent |
| 3. | Name and home address of client: Elorida Naveo 1036 Church St. Reading, Pa 19601, |
| 4. | If engaged by an attorney, name and office address of retaining attorney: Not applicable |
| 5. | if claim for personal injuries, wrongful death or property damage, date and place of occurrence: January 1, 2001 - a vioxx injury - Reading, Pa |
| 6. | If a condemnation or change of grade proceeding: Not applicable |
| 7. | Name, address, occupation and relationship of person referring the client: T.V. Commercial |
| Dat | red: Great Neck. NY, 25 day of January, 2005 |
| Ot | Yours, etc. Print Or Signature of Attorney Type |
| | THE YANKOWITZ LAW FIRM, P.C. |

Office and P. O. Address

175 East Shore Road, Great Neck, NY 11023

10th Dist. 2nd Dept. NASSAU County

^{*}Set forth particulars as to the fee arrangement, the type of services to be rendered in the motter, the code number assigned to the statement of retainer filed by the remining attorney and the date when said statement of retainer was filed.

RETAINER STATEMENT

TO:

OFFICE OF COURT ADMINISTRATION
OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
Post Office Box 2016
New York, NY 10008

For office use:

| ٠. | Date of agreement as to Retainer: December 24, 2004 |
|-------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2. | Terms of Compensation: Contingent Retainer - Straight 33 1/3 Percent |
| 3. | Name and home address of client: William Godio 2040 Rosemarie Way, Hatfield, Pa 19440. |
| 4. | If engaged by an attorney, name and office address of retaining attorney: Not applicable |
| 5. | If claim for personal injuries, wrongful death or property damage, date and place of occurrence: |
| 6. 1 | If a condemnation or change of grade proceeding: Not applicable |
| 7. 1 | Name, address, occupation and relationship of person referring the client: T.V. Commercial |
| Dated | d: Great Neck. NY, 18 day of January, 2005 |
| Our F | File # 0365-01 Yours, etc. Print or Signature of Afterney |

Office and P. O. Address

THE YANKOWITZ LAW FIRM, P.C. 175 East Shore Road, Great Neck, NY 11023

Attorney

Type

^{*}Set forth particulars as to the fee arrangement, the type of services to be rendered in the matter, the code number assigned to the statement of retainer filed by the retaining attorney and the date when said statement of retainer was filed.

RETAINER STATEMENT

TO: OFFICE OF COURT ADMINISTRATION
OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
Post Office Box 2016
New York, NY 10008

For office use:

| Ι. | Date of | agreement as to | Retainer |
|----|---------|-----------------|----------|
| | funnary | 21 2004 | |

January 21, 2004

2. Terms of Compensation:
Contingent Retainer - Straight 33 1/3 Percent

- Name and home address of client: <u>Aracelio Torres</u> 135 Pine St. Elizabeth, N.J. 07206.
- 4. If engaged by an attorney, name and office address of retaining attorney: Not applicable
- If claim for personal injuries, wrongful death or property damage, date and place of occurrence: January 1, 2001 - a vioxx injury - Elizabeth, NJ
- 6. If a condemnation or change of grade proceeding: Not applicable
- 7. Name, address, occupation and relationship of person referring the client: T.V. Commercial

Dated: Great Neck.

NY, 1 day of February, 2005

Our File # 0380-01

Print

OF

Signature of Attorney

ACK A YANKOWITZ

Attorney Type

THE YANKOWITZ LAW FIRM, P.C.

175 East Shore Road, Great Neck, NY 11023

Office and P. O. Address

^{*}Set forth particulars as to the fee arrangement, the type of services to be rendered in the matter, the code number assigned to the statement of retainer filed by the retaining attorney and the date when said statement of retainer was filed.

For office use:

RETAINER STATEMENT

TO: OFFICE OF COURT ADMINISTRATION
OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
Post Office Box 2016
New York, NY 10008

| 1. | . Date of agreement as to Retainer: November 19, 2004 | |
|----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| 2. | | |
| 3. | Name and home address of client: <u>Ruth Rieman</u> 2987 Islip Ct. Wantagh, N.Y. 11793. | |
| 4. | i. If engaged by an attorney, name and office address of retaining attor | mey: Not applicable |
| 5. | If claim for personal injuries, wrongful death or property damage, de June 30, 2004 - a vioxx injury | ate and place of occurrence: |
| 6. | 5. If a condemnation or change of grade proceeding: Not applicable | |
| 7. | 7. Name, address, occupation and relationship of person referring the c | lient: T.V. Commercial |
| Da | Dated: Great Neck. NY, 29 day of Novemb | per. 2004 |
| 0 | Our File # 0265-04 Print | YOUTE, etg. |
| | or { | Signeture of Attorney |
| | (| IACK A YANKOWITZ Atterney |
| | Туре | - |
| | | THE YANKOWITZ LAW FIRM, P.C. |
| | | 175 East Shore Road, Great Neck, NY 11023 |

Office and P. O. Address

^{*}Set forth particulars as to the fee arrangement, the type of services to be rendered in the matter, the code number assigned to the statement of retainer filed by the retaining attorney and the date when said statement of retainer was filed.

| RETAINED | STATEMENT |
|---------------------------------|------------|
| A COUNTY OF THE PERSON NAMED IN | SIAIKMIKNT |

TO: OFFICE OF COURT ADMINISTRATION OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

Post Office Box 2016 New York, NY 10008 For office use:

| 1. | Date of agreement as to Retainer: |
|-----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2. | November 18, 2004 Terms of Compensation: |
| | Contingent Retainer - Straight 33 1/3 Percent |
| 3. | Name and home address of client: Nilda Mercado 220 Granny Rd. Medford, N.Y. 11763. |
| 4. | If engaged by an attorney, name and office address of retaining attorney: Not applicable |
| 5. | If claim for personal injuries, wrongful death or property damage, date and place of occurrence: February 5, 2004 - a vioxx injury |
| 6. | If a condemnation or change of grade proceeding: Not applicable |
| 7. | Name, address, occupation and relationship of person referring the client: T.V. Commercial |
| Dat | ed: Great Neck NY, 19 day of November, 2004 |
| Ou | File # 0260-04 Yours, etc. All Hill Print |
| | Of Signature of Attorney |
| | JACK A. YANKOWITZ |
| | Type |
| | THE YANKOWITZ LAW FIRM, P.C. 175 East Shore Road, Great Neck, NY 11023 |

Office and P. O. Address

^{*}Set forth particulars as to the fac arrangement, the type of services to be rendered in the matter, the code number assigned to the statement of retainer filled by the rotaining attorney and the date when said statement of retainer was filled.

RETAINER STATEMENT

TO: OFFICE OF COURT ADMINISTRATION OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

Post Office Box 2016 New York, NY 10008 For office use:

| l. | Date of agreement as to | Retainer: |
|----|-------------------------|-----------|
| | November 15, 2004 | |

2. Terms of Compensation:
Contingent Retainer - Straight 33 1/3 Percent

- Name and home address of client: <u>Robinn Haynes</u> 1521 N Jefferson Lane, <u>Philadelphia</u>, <u>PA 19122</u>,
- 4. If engaged by an attorney, name and office address of retaining attorney: Not applicable
- 5. If claim for personal injuries, wrongful death or property damage, date and place of occurrence:

 January 1, 2003 a vioxx injury
- 6. If a condemnation or change of grade proceeding: Not applicable

7. Name, address, occupation and relationship of person referring the client: T.V. Commercial

Dated: Great Neck

NY, 17 day of November, 2004

Our File # 0233-03

Print

or

Yours, c

Appropri

Туре

THE YANKOWITZ LAWFIRM, P.C.

175 East Shore Road, Great Neck, NY 11023

Office and P. O. Address

^{*}Set forth particulars us to the fee arrangement, the type of services to be rendered in the matter, the code number assigned to the statement of retainer filed by the retaining attorney and the date when used statement of retainer was filed.

Statement as to Retainer - use for fee as per Schedule B or for Condemnation Proceedings, App. Div., July 1960. For office use: RETAINER STATEMENT OFFICE OF COURT ADMINISTRATION TO: OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK Post Office Box 2016 New York, NY 10008 1. Date of agreement as to Retainer: November 13, 2004 2. Terms of Compensation: Contingent Retainer - Straight 33 1/3 Percent 3. Name and home address of client: Maria Irma Gonzalez 218 Hyuler Ave. Apt 218F. Hackensack N.J. 07606 4. If engaged by an attorney, name and office address of retaining attorney: Not applicable 5. If claim for personal injuries, wrongful death or property damage, date and place of occurrence: December 1, 2003 - vioxx injury 6. If a condemnation or change of grade proceeding: Not applicable 7. Name, address, occupation and relationship of person referring the client: T.V. Commercial Dated: Great Neck. NY, 16 day of November, 2004 Yours, etc. Our File # 0228-03 Print Type THE YANKOWITZ LAW FIRM, P.C. 175 East Shore Road, Great Nock, NY 11023

Office and P. O. Address

^{*}Set forth particulars as to the fee arrangement, the type of services to be rendered in the matter, the code number assigned to the statement of retainer filed by the retaining accoracy and the date when said statement of retainer was filed.

RETAINER STATEMENT

TO: OFFICE OF COURT ADMINISTRATION
OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
Post Office Box 2016
New York, NY 10008

For office use:

| 1. | Date of agreement as to Retainer: November 10, 2004 |
|------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2. | Terms of Compensation: Contingent Retainer - Straight 33 1/3 Percent |
| 3. | Name and home address of client: <u>Carmelo Ortiz</u> 505 E 180 St. Apt 3C. Bronx, N.Y. 10457 |
| 4. | If engaged by an attorney, name and office address of retaining attorney: Not applicable |
| 5. | If claim for personal injuries, wrongful death or property damage, date and place of occurrence: hune 24, 2004 - a vioxx injury |
| б. | If a condemnation or change of grade proceeding: Not applicable |
| 7. | Name, address, occupation and relationship of person referring the client: T.V. Commercial |
| Date | ed: Great Neck, NY, 15 day of November, 2004 |
| Ou | or Signatural Attorney JACK A. YANKOWITZ Type |

Office and P. O. Address

THE YANKOWITZ LAW FIRM, P.C. 175 East Shore Road, Great Neck, NY 11023

^{*}Set forth particulars as to the fee arrangement, the type of survices to be readered in the matter, the code number assigned to the statement of retainer filed by the retaining attorney and the date when said statement of retainer was filed.

| DETA | INED | QTLY. | TEMENT |
|--------|---------|-------|------------------|
| KC I A | HIND.R. | NIA. | I N. IVI H. N. I |

TO: OFFICE OF COURT ADMINISTRATION
OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
Post Office Box 2016
New York, NY 10008

| _ | | |
|-----|--------|------|
| For | office | use: |

| I. | Date of agreement as to Retainer: November 4, 2004 | |
|------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| 2. | | |
| 3. | Name and home address of client: <u>Catherine Beliveau</u> 10 Court St. Lynn, MA 01905, | |
| 4. | If engaged by an attorney, name and office address of | retaining attorney: Not applicable |
| 5. | If claim for personal injuries, wrongful death or prope July 11, 2003 - a vioxx injury | rty damage, date and place of occurrence: |
| 6. | If a condemnation or change of grade proceeding: No | t applicable |
| 7 . | Name, address, occupation and relationship of person i | eferring the client: T.V. Commercial |
| Date | sted: Great Neck NY, 12 d | av of November, 2004 |
| Ou | Our File # 0215-03 | Print or Ack A. YANKOWITZ Alternary |

Type

Office and P. O. Address

THE YANKOWITZ LAW FIRM, P.C.
175 East Shore Road, Great Neck, NY 11023

[&]quot;Set forth particulars as to the fee arrangement, the type of services to be rendered in the matter, the code number assigned to the statement of retainer filed by the retaining attorney and the date when said statement of retainer was filed.

RETAINER STATEMENT

TO: OFFICE OF COURT ADMINISTRATION
OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
Post Office Box 2016
New York, NY 10008

For office use:

| l. | Date of agreement as to Retainer: November 9, 2004 |
|------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2. | Terms of Compensation: |
| | Contingent Retainer - Straight 33 1/3 Percent |
| 3. | Name and home address of client: Julia Vasquez 192 Sands Street, Apt 5A, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11201 |
| 4. | If engaged by an attorney, name and office address of retaining attorney: Not applicable |
| 5. | If claim for personal injuries, wrongful death or property damage, date and place of occurrence: January 1, 2001 - a Vioxx injury |
| 6. | If a condemnation or change of grade proceeding: Not applicable |
| 7. | Name, address, occupation and relationship of person referring the client: T.V. Commercial |
| Date | ed: Great Neck. NY, 12 day of November, 2004 |
| Оч | Print Or Signature of Attorney JACK A. YANKOWITZ |
| | Attorney |

Type

10th Dist 2nd Dept. NASSAU County

Office and P. O. Address

THE YANKOWITZ LAW FIRM, P.C. 175 Bar Shore Road, Great Nock, NY 11023

"Set forth particulars as to the fee arrangement, the type of services to be rendered in the matter, the code number assigned to the statement of retainer was filed by the retaining attorney and

RETAINER STATEMENT

TO: OFFICE OF COURT ADMINISTRATION
OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
Post Office Box 2016
New York, NY 10008

| For | office | use: |
|-----|--------|------|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

| ı. | rate of agreement as to Ketsiner. |
|----|--------------------------------------------------|
| | November 9, 2004 |
| 2. | Terms of Compensation: |
| | Continuent Retainer - Straight 33 1/3 Percentage |

 Name and home address of client: Milagros Valerio 130 Grand Ave. Apt 3A, Englewood, N.J. 07631

- 4. If engaged by an attorney, name and office address of retaining attorney: Not applicable
- If claim for personal injuries, wrongful death or property damage, date and place of occurrence: May 23, 2004 - a vioxx injury
- 6. If a condemnation or change of grade proceeding: Not applicable
- 7. Name, address, occupation and relationship of person referring the client: T.V. Commercial

Dated: Great Neck.

NY, 10 day of November, 2004

Our File # 0188-04

Yours Print

/

JACK A. YANKOWITZ

Туре

THE YANKOWITZ LAW FIRM, P.C. 175 East Shore Road, Great Neck, NY 11023

Office and P. O. Address

^{*}Set forth particulars as to the fee arrangement, the type of services to be rendered in the matter, the code number assigned to the statement of retainer filed by the retaining attorpey and the date when tend statement of retainer was filed.

| | or for Condemnation Proceedings, App. Div., July 1960. | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|--|
| | | For office use: | |
| | RETAINER STATEMENT | · | |
| TO: | OFFICE OF COURT ADMINISTRATION OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK Post Office Box 2016 New York, NY 10008 | | |
| 1. | Date of agreement as to Retainer: | | |
| 2. | December 15, 2004 Terms of Compensation: Contingent Retainer - Straight 33 1/3 Percent | | |
| 3. | Name and home address of client: Lorraine Jarrell deceased, by her daughter Arlene Criveau 6165 58th St North, Unit 4E, St. Petersburgh, FL 33709. | | |
| 4, | If engaged by an attorney, name and office address of retaining at | tomey: Not applicable | |
| 5. | If claim for personal injuries, wrongful death or property damage, date and place of occurrence: June 12, 2004 - a vioxx injury - Levittown, NY | | |
| 6. | If a condemnation or change of grade proceeding: Not applicable | | |
| 7. | Name, address, occupation and relationship of person referring the client: T.V. Commercial | | |
| Dat | ed: Great Neck NY, 16 day of Decer | ober, 2004 | |
| Our File # 0340-04 Print Yours, etc. | | Yours, etc. | |
| | or } | Signature of Attorney | |
| | Туре | Attorney | |
| | 1,750 | THE YANKOWITZ LAW FIRM, P.C. | |
| | | 175 East Shore Road, Great Neck, NY 11023 | |

Office and P. O. Address

^{*}Set forth particulars as to the fer arrangement, the type of services to be rendered in the marter, the code number assigned to the statement of returner filed by the returning extorney and the date when said statement of returner was filed.

| | Statement as to Retainer - use for fee as per Schedule B or for Condemnation Proceedings, App. Div., July 1960. | ı |
|----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| | | For office use: |
| | RETAINER STATEMENT | |
| то | OFFICE OF COURT ADMINISTRATION OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK Post Office Box 2016 New York, NY 10008 | |
| 1. | Date of agreement as to Retainer: October 27, 2004 | |
| 2. | Terms of Compensation: Contingent Retainer - Straight 33 1/3 Percent | |
| 3, | Name and home address of client: Melvin Stephens 157 5th St. Reovesta, Ky 40854. | |
| 4, | If engaged by an attorney, name and office address of retaining at | torney: Not applicable |
| 5. | If claim for personal injuries, wrongful death or property damage, February 1, 2004 - a vioxx injury | date and place of occurrence: |
| 6. | If a condemnation or change of grade proceeding: Not applicable | - |

7. Name, address, occupation and relationship of person referring the client: T.V. Commercial

Our File # 0156-04

Dated: Great Neck.

3.

Yours, etc. **Print**

YANKOWITZ

Туре

O£

NY, 28 day of October, 2004

THE YANKOWITZ LAW FIRM, P.C. 175 East Shore Road, Great Neck, NY 11023

Office and P. O. Address

^{*}Set forth particulars as to the fee arrangement, the type of services to be rendered in the matter, the code number assigned to the statement of retainer filed by the retaining attorney and the date when said statement of retainer was filed.

RETAINER STATEMENT

TO: OFFICE OF COURT ADMINISTRATION
OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
Post Office Box 2016
New York, NY 10008

For office use:

| I. | Date of agreement as to Retainer: November 3, 2004 |
|-----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2. | Terms of Compensation: Contingent Retainer - Straight 33 1/3 Percent |
| 3, | Name and home address of client: Felix Moronta 309 E Houston St. Apt 5E, New York, N.Y. 10002 |
| 4. | If engaged by an attorney, name and office address of retaining attorney: Not applicable |
| 5. | If claim for personal injuries, wrongful death or property damage, date and place of occurrence: July 27, 2004 - a vioxx injury |
| 6. | If a condemnation or change of grade proceeding: Not applicable |
| 7. | Name, address, occupation and relationship of person referring the client: T.V. Commercial |
| Dat | ted: Great Neck. NY, 4 day of November, 2004 |
| Ou | Print or Signature of Attorney Type |

Office and P. O. Address

THE YANKOWITZ LAW FIRM, P.C. 175 East Shore Road, Great Neck, NY 11023

10th Dist. 2nd Dept. NASSAU County

*Set forth particulars as to the fee arrangement, the type of services to be rendered in the master, the code number assigned to the statement of retainer filed by the retaining attorney and the when said statement of retainer was filed.

| RETAINER STATEMENT | Por office use: |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| TO: OFFICE OF COURT ADMINISTRATION OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK Post Office Box 2016 New York, NY 10008 | , |
| Date of agreement as to Retainer: October 12, 2004 Terms of Compensation: Contingent Retainer - Straight 33 1/3 Percent | |
| Name and home address of client: <u>Mitchel Blask</u> 133 Harbor View Drive, Massapequa, N.Y. 11758. | |
| 4. If engaged by an attorney, name and office address of retaining attorn | |
| If claim for personal injuries, wrongful death or property damage, date August 30, 2002 - Vioxa injury | te and place of occurrence: |
| 6. If a condemnation or change of grade proceeding: Not applicable | |
| 7. Name, address, occupation and relationship of person referring the clie | Birt Jack A Venhamin |
| Dated: Great Neck. NY, 13 day of October, 2 | |
| Print or { | Signature of Attorney CK A YANKOWITZ DITIES E YANKOWITZ LAW FIRM, P.C. East Shore Road, Great Neck, NY 11023 |

Office and P. O. Address

^{*}Set forth perticulars as to the fee arrangement, the type of services to be rendered in the matter, the code number assigned to the statement of retainer filed by the retaining attorney and the

| RETAINER STATEMENT | For office use: |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| TO: OFFICE OF COURT ADMINISTRATION OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK Post Office Box 2016 New York, NY 10008 | |
| Date of agreement as to Retainer: November 9, 2004 Terms of Compensation: Contingent Retainer - Straight 33 1/3 Percent | |
| 5. Name and home | |
| If engaged by an attorney, name and office address of retaining attorney. If claim for personal injuries, wrongful death or property damage, date September 4, 2004 a vioxx injury. If a condemnation or change of grade proceeding: Not applicable. Name, address, occupation and relationship of person referring the client Dated: Great Neck. NY, 10 day of November, 2 | and place of occurrence: T.V. Commercial |
| Type THE YA | Signature of Attorney YANKOWITZ ANKOWITZ LAW FIRM, P.C. Shore Road, Great Neck, NY 11023 |

Office and P. O. Address

^{*}Set forth particulars as to the fee arrangement, the type of services to be rendered in the mutter, the code number assigned to the statement of retainer filled by the retaining aftermey and the date when said statement of retainer was filed.



Retained Clients - Suit Filed

Vioxx OCA Retainer Numbers

| Client Name | OCA Retainer # |
|------------------------|----------------|
| Blask, Mitchell | 5882675-04 |
| Stephens, Melvin | 5888608-04 |
| Moronta, Felix | 5888575-04 |
| Palmer George | 5893162-05 |
| Valerio, Milagros | 5895584-05 |
| Rosado, Juana | 5895588-05 |
| Vasquez, Julia | 5895655-05 |
| Beluveau, Catherine | 5895672-05 |
| Ortiz,Carmelo | 5895667-05 |
| Puerta Gonzalez, Maria | 5895657-05 |
| Haynes, Robinn | 5887642-04 |
| Mercado, Nilda | 5900788-05 |
| Rieman, Ruth | 5899698-05 |
| Cortes, Hilario | 5897651-05 |
| Guzman,Angel | .5897650-05 |
| Ramsey, Nathan | 5899683-05 |
| Zones, Leota | 5899686-05 |
| Fourquet, Angela | 5899706-05 |
| Santana-Torres, Amanda | 5900512-05 |
| Simms, Morris | 5900577-05 |
| Thweatt, Glenn | 5903959-05 |
| Jarrell, Lorainne | 5900530-05 |
| Navedo, Miguei | 5908244-05 |
| Naveo, Elorida | 5922053-05 |
| Godio, William | 5915568-05 |
| Torres, Aracelio | 5922052-05 |

THE YANKOWITZ LAW FIRM, PC 175 East Shore Road Great Neck, NY 11023 516-622-6200

VERIFICATION BY AFFIRMATION

STATE OF NEW YORK)
COUNTY OF NASSAU)

JACK A. YANKOWITZ, ESQ., being duly sworn, says:

I am the President of the Yankowitz Law Firm, P.C. in the action herein: I have read the annexed

COMPLAINT

and know the contents thereof, and the same are true to my knowledge, except those matters therein which are stated to be alleged upon information and belief, and as to those matters I believe them to be true. My belief as to those matters therein not stated upon knowledge, is based upon facts, records, and other pertinent information contained in my personal files.

Dated:

GREAT NECK, NY February 9, 2009

ACK A. YANKOWITZ, ESQ.